

CA IPACICW Subcommittee Minutes

Date: January 7th, 2009

In attendance:

Name	Tribe/Organization
Rosi Francis	Region 4 and 5, IPSS
Garnet Charles	Region 6, IPSS
Rebecca Peck (phone)	Samish Nation
Linda Adkinson (phone)	Region 1, CA
Liz Mueller	Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe
Betsy Tulee	CA, HQ
Nancy Dufraine	CA, HQ
Julie Jefferson (phone)	Region 3, IPSS
Trudy Marcellay	Region 6, IPSS
Dean Johnny (phone)	Chehalis Tribe
Angel Peterson (phone)	SPIPA
Lorraine Brave (during presentation)	Region 4
Marcy Reynolds (during presentation)	UW, School of SW
Michael Luque (during presentation)	CA, HQ
Tom Berry (during presentation)	ESA, HQ

Next meeting: Wednesday February 11, 2009

Location: DSHS/OB2

Room: SL03 (in basement near cafeteria)
1115 Washington St.
Olympia, WA. 98504

Conference Call in number: 360-407-3780 pin number 402219#

Minutes:

Agenda Item	Discussion
Announcements	Stan Marshburn has been appointed as Interim Secretary of DSHS (replacing Robin Arnold Williams). Randy Hart has been appointed Interim Assistant Secretary for Children's Administration (CA).

<p>Disproportionality Commission Update</p> <p>Liz Mueller and Nancy Dufraine</p>	<p>The ‘Racial Disproportionality and Disparity in Washington State Child Welfare- Remediation Plan’ was distributed. This is part of Phase II of the Senate House Bill 1472 on disproportionality. It was also sent out via email listserve to tribes and Recognized American Indian Organizations mid December 2008 and early January 2009 as well.</p> <p>The primary areas of focus include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Reporting 2. Decision making 3. Long term placement <p>A Disproportionality Symposium was sponsored by the King County Coalition and held at the UW in Seattle on June 26th and 27th, 2008. There were regional breakout groups at the Symposium that were asked to identify issues related to disproportionality. Regional breakout groups have provided recommendations to the Commission. In addition to the above primary areas other recommendations included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information and training needs to be provided to mandated reporters including Undoing Racism training. • When calls do come into Intake that referrals involving tribal children get sent out immediately to the given tribe. • Do Family to Family meetings prior to placement and request more money from legislators to ensure enough F2F staff available. • Provide services upfront to prevent placement. • Assess impact of training that is delivered. • Utilize a proactive model instead of reactive model. • Need to address historical and intergenerational trauma. • Provide training to State staff at local level (Skokomish plans to develop and deliver this to the Shelton office). • Look at ICW as a model for all service delivery especially for those communities who experience disproportionality. • A Washington State ICW Act (passed by legislation). <p>Liz noted the proposed Washington ICW Act is one of the top priorities. It was authored by Tom Tremaine and will be shared with Tribal leaders for consultation and their input prior to introduction to the legislature. Representative Pettigrew has been involved in formulating this proposed legislation and is willing to introduce it the legislature.</p>
<p>Washington State Indian Child Welfare Act</p> <p>Lorraine Brave and Marcy Reynolds</p>	<p>Lorraine Brave and Marcy Reynolds (intern with Representative Pettigrew) presented the proposed Washington State ICW Act. It was authored by Tom Tremaine of the NW Justice Center. He will present if Thursday 1/8/09 at IPAC. Representative Pettigrew is willing to introduce it to the Senate as a bill when the tribes have been consulted. Liz and Nancy indicated the importance of ensuring that all tribes have the opportunity to review and give input. The Tribal Consultation Protocol would be an appropriate avenue to ensure this happens. Major benefits of this proposed Act is that will provide clear direction to CA as well as</p>

	<p>attorneys and the judges/commissioners.</p> <p>Lorraine noted it will help inform leaders including legislators.</p> <p>Nancy reiterated that it can be piggy backed onto the Disproportionality Remediation Plan.</p> <p>Nancy is working on finding out the impact of a State ICW Act in Iowa and if there are any related Acts elsewhere in the country.</p>
<p>Indian Awareness Day</p> <p>Lorraine Brave and Marcy Reynolds</p>	<p>On January 28th 2009. 12:00 noon a gathering will be held at the Rotunda at the Capitol in Olympia-the Indian Awareness Day. (In prior years this was a Lobby Day for ICW issues).</p> <p>Senator McCoy will be present as will Governor Gregoire or her representative. Lorraine and Marcy are encouraging a wide turnout and request volunteers to assist with organizing, driving or providing donations for refreshments and food.</p> <p>Disproportionality was suggested as the theme. Lorraine asked best way to introduce the proposed Act</p> <p>Liz suggested introducing it by explaining that it is a draft and that its history goes back to the time that the Tribal State Agreements were developed. AAG Leanne Miller had it on her agenda to work on but was not able to complete it before her passing. Also, discuss how it intersects with disproportionality.</p> <p>Folks are welcome to meet at 10:00am at First Christian Church near the capitol for training by the Children's Alliance on how to talk to your legislators.</p> <p>Marcy and Lorraine are encouraging local organizers from across Washington to coordinate advocates from their community. You may contact Marcy at marcysr@u.washington.edu if you would like to volunteer.</p> <p>A more detailed agenda will be emailed next week by Lorraine Brave or Marcy Reynolds. .</p>
<p>Tom Berry, ESA and Michael Luque, CA</p> <p>Changes to TANF</p>	<p>About a year ago Representative Kagi expressed concern that parents were not adequately supported when their children were removed from their care, which was undermining efforts for parents to reunite with their children. Temporary Aid for Needy Families (TANF) payments would cease after 90 days or if the child were placed with a caregiver who needed TANF to support the child. Inquiries were made to the federal Department of Health and Human Services and it was found that the TANF law does allow parents to continue to receive these payments under limited circumstances.</p> <p>Effective August 2008 the law in Washington State now allows the parent(s) to continue receiving TANF benefits for up to 180 days if the child has been removed by CPS and the plan is to return the child to the parent within 180 days. TANF benefits can also follow simultaneously follow the child. Nancy asked if Tribes without Tribal TANF programs that have jurisdiction over children fall under the new law. Tom stated yes. The problem is when the parents receive TANF through a Tribal TANF program or the child is temporarily placed with a caregiver under the a Tribal TANF program as there is language in tribal TANF regulations that does not allow for duplicative payments that include both State and Tribal TANF.</p>

Budget Issues	<p>The Governor has released her proposed budget. So far, CA has lost 44 positions, most out of headquarters. Case carrying positions are the priority to save. More cuts may come in February. All conferences are put on hold including the ICW Summit until more is known. All trainings are also being looked at for possible cuts and/or cost saving changes as well.</p>
---------------	--